

WESTERN WORKER

WESTERN ORGAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY U.S.A.
[SECTION OF THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL]

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SAN FRANCISCO, OCTOBER 30, 1933

Price Five Cents

STRIKE SOLID: 33% RAISE OFFERED S. F. Jobless at City Hall, Oct. 30

TOM MANN SPEAKS AT COAST ANTI-WAR MEET

16th Soviet Anniversary Celebrations on Nov. 7

San Francisco Mass Meet Will Be On Nov. 6,
Combined With Last Election Rally

Sixteen years of the Soviet Union, and its victorious building of Socialism will be celebrated by the workers and farmers in every corner of the world, on Nov. 7, 1933.

In the United States, the celebration will have added significance by the fact that even this imperialist power is compelled to finally take step towards recognition of the first Workers Republic.

The further sharpening of the world war situation and the fascist terror, particularly the deliberate provocations from the Japanese imperialists against the Soviet power, demands that the celebrations be made into giant demonstrations behind the workers' fatherland. All Party and other workers organizations in the Western Districts should lose no time making immediate arrangements. All meetings scheduled should reach the Western Worker office to be included in the next issue, which will be a special Anniversary edition.

SAN FRANCISCO

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 23.—The workers of San Francisco will celebrate the 16th anniversary of the Soviet Union, together with the last election rally, which will be at California Hall, Polk and Turk streets, on Nov. 6th, 8 p. m. An interesting program, including speakers on the achievements in the Soviet Union, and the last minute election appeals by the Workers candidates. Red night rallies in all neighborhoods will precede the mass meeting.

LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 23.—The Los Angeles 16th Anniversary celebration will be under the auspices of the United Front Conference for its celebration, on Nov. 7th, at the Mason Theatre, 127 Broadway, 8 p. m. The principal speaker will be Sam Darcy, District organizer of the Communist Party. An interesting program including plays and music will be presented. The hunger marchers who will demonstrate earlier in the day at Pershing Square will take a prominent part in the celebration.

S. F. WORKERS AT BIG RALLY BACK RED CANDIDATES

Section Mass Meetings Thru-
out City This Week

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 22.—One thousand workers gave their hearty endorsement to the Workers candidates at the ratification rally at California Hall last Tuesday night.

Following a score of open air meetings in all main parts of the city, workers paraded from North Beach, Fillmore, Mission and the Downtown districts to the rally to hear the candidates speak and gave them a rousing reception. The nominees put forward by the Communist Party are: For Supervisor, Louise Todd, Edward Harris, John Diaz, Jack Bishop and James Tracy and for Treasurer, Neil Hickey.

Organization after organization took the platform to add their endorsement. Following the mobilization plan of this meeting, each section is holding a mass meeting this week at which the candidates will speak. Last night in North Beach a gala night was held in the Workers Center, 1529 Powell street, following five neighborhood open air meetings. In the Workers Center, 1223 Fillmore street, a similar meeting will be held Wednesday, Nov. 1, and in Mission Wednesday night, Oct. 25, at 3470 19th street. All candidates running for office have been invited to address the meetings.

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 3)

Tom Mann



UNITED FEDERATION OF UNEMPLOYED IS FORMED IN OAKLAND

Will Unite All Organizations
In Struggle For Relief

OAKLAND, Calif., Oct. 14.—The increased demand for relief is creating a tremendous enthusiasm for Unemployment Insurance and the Federation of Unemployment and Relief in Alameda County is gaining increasing support in the United Front Conference called at Lowell school last night. Three hundred workers and twenty-one elected delegates attended the preliminary conference.

Including in their demands cash relief, a union wage on all relief jobs, with no forced labor, evictions, lights, gas or water shut-offs, a commission was elected to meet with the county and state governments relief committees and commissioners to adjust this relief as prices rise and fall.

When three disrupters tried to split the conference with a Communist scare they were exposed as fakers.

Another meeting will be held Monday, Oct. 23rd, at 8 p. m., in McClymonds High School and each Monday night following.

NEEDLE UNION CALLS FOR RANK AND FILE CONTROL IN STRIKE

Workers Battle Police in Militant Picketing While Socialist Party Leaders Carry Closed Door Negotiations

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 20.—Despite the tactics of the Socialist misleaders of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (A. F. of L.) of holding negotiations behind closed doors with the NRA officials and the bosses and keeping the rank and file in the dark, the strikers are picketing and growing more militant. The misleaders delayed the calling of the general strike until the dress season was ending. Now only a most militant fight by the rank and file can win their demands for a decent wage, and recognition of the union.

Five thousand are out, striking against the starvation wages as low as \$3 and \$4 a week. Mobilization of over 100 police and the arrest of three workers Monday, has not stopped the picketing.

The officials of the International are carrying on negotiations behind closed doors with the NRA of-

ENGLISH WORKERS' LEADER TO SPEAK IN S. F. OCT. 27

Ella Winter Will Report On
Conditions in San Joaquin
Valley Strike

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 21.—Tom Mann will speak in San Francisco.

The great English working class leader, sentenced to six months imprisonment for leading the hunger march on London last winter and released through a tremendous mass protest, will speak here at Eagles Hall, Friday, Oct. 27, at 8 p. m.

At the mass meeting, arranged by the Tom Mann Reception Committee, and supported by the International Labor Defense and the San Francisco Anti-War Committee, and Workers International Relief, Louis Bradley, Ella Winter and other prominent speakers will tell of conditions in the San Joaquin cotton strike area.

Sunday night, Oct. 29, at 6 p. m., a supper and reception for Mann will be held at the Eagles Hall. Admission and supper is 50c.

Tom Mann, who came to the (Continued on Page 3, Col. 2)

RELIEF DEMANDS TO BE PUT BEFORE S. F. SUPERVISORS

Workers Candidates To Lead Large Delegation
For Cash Relief, of \$10 Per Week

BULLETIN

Faced with a large committee of the Charity Workers Protective Union, the Board of Supervisors granted their demand, that the unemployed be permitted to present grievances, naming the Supervisors meeting on every Monday as the date.

The Supervisors, who in a pre-election gesture, voted to start cash relief, this time adopted a resolution stating that the proposal for cash or SCRP was only a recommendation to the Citizens Relief Committee.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 23.—A mass delegation representing the unemployed of all sections of the city will come before the San Francisco Board of Supervisors on Monday, Nov. 30, to present relief demands, of which the central one is cash relief.

The Workers Candidates will head the delegation. Supporting the mass delegation will be marches of workers from five main sections of the city to converge at the Civic Center at 2 p. m. The mobilization points are:

MISSION—16th & Howard, 1 p. m.
FILLMORE—Jefferson Park, 1 p. m.
DOWNTOWN—765 Howard, 1 p. m.
NORTH BEACH—Washington Square, Union and Stockton, 12:45 n. m.

WATERFRONT—Embarcadero, nr. Market, 12:45 p. m.

The United Front of Workers Organizations, arranging the mass delegation, in its appeal states:

"What relief and concessions we got up till now was due to the Mass Pressure—Hunger Marches, Demonstrations and struggles of the unemployed, led by Unemployed Councils and Charity Workers Protective Union. Support and join the Hunger March to present the following demands to the Board of Supervisors":

1. Cash Relief \$10 per week for single or married worker and \$3 for each dependent.

2. Cash pay at prevailing union scale on city relief jobs.

WARNING—Do not be misled by Uhl's and other scrip promises. Scrip means favorite stores (Continued on Page 3, Col. 7)

1,700 STRIKING FISHERMEN WIN \$1 PER TON RAISE

TUUL Union Wins 90% of
Fishermen

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 20.—Ending their four weeks' strike, the sardine fishermen Thursday afternoon voted to go back, having won the \$7.00 per ton rate, or 50% of the increase they demanded, and recognition of the Fishermen and Cannery Workers Industrial Union.

Their determined refusal to accept the terms of the bosses, of \$6 a ton, which Tim Reardon, Frank McDonald, the cannery themselves and Mr. Argyle Campbell, attorney for the boatowners, each in turn tried to foist upon them, resulted in this victory. Open scales, which permits the workers to view them anytime was also granted.

At present their committee of three is in Washington to argue the NRA code for the fishing industry, and should they win their demands the price paid will be the full \$8 a ton they struck for. In (Continued on Page 3, Col. 7)

HUNGER MARCH IN L. A. DESPITE PERMIT REFUSAL

Supervisors Fear To Face
Another Huge Demonstration

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 16.—Fearing the militancy of the workers in their determined efforts to fight against starvation, the City Council today denied a permit to hold a Hunger March on November 7, starting from Sixth and Olive and ending at the City Hall.

Over 500 workers crowded the Council chamber to support the speaker for the United Front Conference Against Hunger, D. A. Sullivan. When the councilmen reported that the Council subcommittee recommended that the permit be denied, Sullivan asked to speak for the assembled workers, but was refused.

Despite this refusal, the workers were more than ever determined to make the November 7 Hunger March the mightiest demonstration in the history of Los Angeles

25 Lodi Strikers Are Freed

STOCKTON, Calif., Oct. 20.—As a result of the mass protest roused by the International Labor Defense, 25 workers arrested for activity in the recent grape strike at Lodi were today released and charges against them dismissed. The strikers, jailed during the reign of terrorism loosed by the Lodi authorities and "vigilantes," included Carl Maynard, leader in the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union.

The cases were dismissed by Skolmore, who during the strike advocated the lynching of the leaders.

MATSON CO. TAKES BACK FIRED MEN; FEARS BIG STRIKE

Arbitration Board Gives
Shipowners Time To Pre-
pare For Coming Strike

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 21.—The Arbitration Board selected to settle the dispute between the Matson company and the workers, which caused a strike last week, advised the company and the International Longshoremen's Union "to come to some agreement." The Matson company agreed to rehire the four men, although only three returned, the fourth having another job.

The Arbitration Board, headed by the strikebreaking Judge Sloss, realizing that if the workers are not taken back another, probably a general strike would break out, advised the Matson company on the action taken. This was to avoid placing itself on record for a decision that may be interpreted to mean that the Blue Book, company union's monopoly on the waterfront is broken, and that some recognition is extended to the International Longshoremen's Assn., by the board.

The decision is to give the shipowners time to prepare scabs, in face of an inevitable strike

CORONER'S JURY ADMITS COUNTY GUILTY IN FIRE

But Tries to Whitewash
Arch Criminal Jensen

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 20.—The coroners jury investigating the Griffith Park fire Monday, brought in a verdict of gross negligence and unpreparedness as responsible for the deaths of the workers in Griffith Park.

The verdict stated: "We find that death resulted from gross negligence and unpreparedness for the fire in Griffith Park, and gross negligence of the supervision of county welfare men at Griffith Park."

The coroners jury of "experts" was forced to bring this verdict in by the mass sentiment aroused against the county, as a result of the slaughter of workers in the fire. The jury tried to whitewash the county, however, by stating that no more than twenty-eight workers were burned to death and that the fire was not hot enough to completely cremate a body. This statement was made despite the fact that in early newspaper reports the stories came out that in some cases only skulls, knee caps or teeth of workers were found, and in the face of worker eye witnesses who have given affidavits to the International Labor Defense to the effect that over a hundred lives were lost.

Meanwhile a shameless attempt is being made by the bosses and authorities of the city to help baby starver, Jensen, directly responsible for the murder of the workers, out of the mess he is in. Supervisor Quinn stated that Jensen has done "splendid work for the county, and has effected a tremendous saving of money" . . . (at the expense of workers' lives).

Vote San Francisco Communist Ticket

FOR SUPERVISOR

Louise Todd
Jack Bishop
James Tracy
John Diaz
Ed Harris

FOR TREASURER

Neil Hickey

MINE LEADER SENTENCED TO 6 MONTHS BY GALLUP ARMY COURT

Striking Miners Solid Despite Eight Weeks Of Terror, Military Rule

GALLUP, N. M., Oct. 19.—Robert Roberts, organizer of the National Miners Union, and leader of the striking coal miners here, was sentenced to six months in the state penitentiary by a drumhead court martial yesterday. Roberts had been denied food for ten days previous to the trial.

Hundreds of protests from all over the country have forced the release of seven other strike leaders, before the court martial had a chance to sentence them. Similar protests must pour in to free the remaining prisoners.

Geo. Kaplan, district organizer of the International Labor Defense, and Harry Allander, are still in the hospital suffering from lack of (Continued on Page 3, Col. 6)

Small Farmers Leaving the Finance Companies

Cotton Strikers Clean Fields of Scabs in Most Militant Mass Picketing Since Strike Started

Strikers, Small Farmers Tell the Facts

(By Special Correspondent)

An unforgettable scene was enacted in the Chamber of Commerce Auditorium at Visalia, Calif., where for two days representatives of cotton pickers striking under the leadership of the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union presented to the State Fact Finding Commission the reasons for the heroic struggle of the cotton pickers in the San Joaquin.

The small farmers, tied to the banks and finance corporations by mortgages, loans and contracts, had little to say. The growers were represented by bankers, cotton gin owners and their agents—not farmers, but those who farm the farmers. Edson Abel, attorney for the Farm Bureau Federation, a high-powered lawyer with a perpetual sneer, did almost all the talking for the "farmers" and came to their rescue during the cross-examination by members of the Central Strike Committee.

Abel objected to the Commission, two college professors and Archbishop Hanna, as not being fair to the growers. His idea of a fair Commission would be District Attorneys Haight and Wilson, Sheriff Hill, a couple of highway cops and several vigilantes with rifles and shotguns.

COMPEL UNION RECOGNITION

The growers, who have insisted that they would not deal with "reds and outside agitators," were compelled to deal with and be cross-examined by leaders of the union. It was a bitter pill for the bankers and their agents to swallow when the proceedings were twice held up by the workers until Pat Chambers, framed-up strike leader, was brought from the county jail to take part in the conference.

GROWERS FAKE FIGURES

The growers presented phony figures to prove that cotton pickers could get rich on the job. They (Continued on Page 3, Col. 4)

TULARE, Oct. 24.—Increased mass picketing thru-out the valley cleared out virtually all scabs and has demonstrated to the police authorities that they cannot break the strike ranks with terror. They are now following the tactic of arresting the drivers and seizing the picket trucks, leaving the workers on the highway.

The Central Strike Committee is in session as we go to press, taking up the proposals for 75 cents per hundred, which thus far have been rejected by the Northern growers, but accepted by those in the South, in Kern County.

With victory so near, relief is imperative. Funds must be rushed as strikers are even out of gas for picket trucks. Send through Workers International Relief, 1223 Fillmore street.

TULARE, Oct. 23.—The breach in the ranks of the growers widened as the Heddon ranch at Arvin, Hammond ranch at Pixley, and Fernandez at Tipton agreed to sign with the union for \$1 per hundred. Arnold, a Pixley rancher, and several others refused to hire scabs, but the finance company put scabs in the field under the protection of armed guards. The Kern County growers are offering fifty cents per hundred, a 33% increase.

The "Fact Finding Committee" has finally made its decision—that the growers should pay 75 cents per hundred, a 15 cent increase, and that "without question the civil rights of the strikers have been violated" and "We appeal to the authorities that the strikers be protected in rights conferred upon them."

TURN DOWN DECISION

The decision was met by deputizing of hundreds of growers, and a new reign of terror against the workers. The Tulare growers, at a meeting tonight, declared that "the committee made a joke of its duties" and its decisions are not binding upon the growers. The reign of terror was organized to prevent the bulk of the farmers, chiefly small farmers, from accepting this offer. A demand was wired to Washington that the Mexican workers be deported. Sheriff Bob Hill of Tulare declared that "The patience of the growers is exhausted. If the present condition continues we may see slaughter very soon."

Huss, representative of the State Dept. of Industrial Relations, to- (Continued on Page 3, Col. 5)

Benjamin Escapes From Gallup Military Jail

GALLUP, New Mex., Oct. 18.—Herbert Benjamin, National Unemployed Council organizer, who was arrested in Gallup while addressing the picket line, escaped from the military stockade where he was incarcerated. He was discovered to be missing at breakfast time, Tuesday.

Benjamin escaped by untwisting the wires around the fence of the stockade. The militia states several days work was necessary, since he had no tools to work with and was constantly watched.

To date the military have found no trace of Benjamin.

Southern Pacific Slashes Wages 40% With 3-Day Week

SACRAMENTO, Oct. 21.—A cut expected to be followed by the Southern Pacific everywhere went into effect here yesterday when a notice was put up in the S. P. yards that from now on the work week will be three days only, a forty per cent cut. Locally this affects 950 men, the moulder alone being exempted. They did not even give the agreed 48 hours notice.

When the NRA was first started the Southern Pacific announced a five-day week and that hundreds were put back on the payroll.

SWEAT SHOP IN PETALUMA DOES CCC CAMP WORK

Apprenticeship Gag Used To Keep Wages Down To \$1.50 Per Day

PETALUMA, Calif., Oct. 22.—A glimpse into the conditions under which the workers here are working convinces one of the necessity of militant labor organization. The main reason why industries are started in Petaluma is because of the opportunity of exploiting cheap labor. A great deal of the labor is drawn from the hard-hit chicken ranches, and there are many instances where workers are forced to work for a mere pittance.

The most outstanding case of exploitation is a small overall factory under the management of one Goldstone. This factory is established in a warehouse-like building. It is impossible to ventilate it in a proper manner. Here girls work among piles of overalls and pants which shut out light and air. In hot weather the factory is almost unendurable, and adding to the discomfort of the workers, a steam boiler recently was installed, at most in the center of the building.

A girl is hired as an apprentice, and to start, receives about \$1.80 per week. When her apprenticeship is served, she is informed that she will never succeed at sewing and discharged. Another woman is selected from a long waiting list, only to meet with the same fate. To encourage beginners, it is pointed out that some women (after serving seven years) make as high as \$4.50 per day. This is done on special machines, of which there are only a few.

Of the many cases of shameful advantage taken of workers, I will mention only a few. Concentrating intensely on her work, one woman, after six and one-half days, made \$3.20. Another, after working more than 15 hours, received 48 cents. Another, after working four years, is able to earn \$1.50 per day. Male workers receive an average of \$2. These conditions existed while the company was making clothes for the Roosevelt CCC camps. At present all surplus garments are being stored until prices rise. Since the NRA went into effect, many of the oldest workers were laid off.

—Worker Correspondent.

Salinas Contractors Use Gambling To Rob Filipinos Of Pay

SALINAS, Calif., Oct. 20.—Filipino labor contractors are taking advantage of the temporary closing of gambling joints in Salinas, to operate poker games in the camps and rob the workers of what little they are left by the boarding racket.

At least 95% of the Filipino workers are still victims of the bosses' rackets, and unless they organize and fight against these rackets, they will, as usual, return from the fields with nothing to show for their season's work.

To victimize them, the contractors use every possible method of discrimination against Filipino workers, so that they have no chance of normal social activities. Fellow workers! We must unite and fight for better working and living conditions, and against the vicious contracting system.

—F. M.

Leaders of Pomona Nut Pickers Defy Court Maneuvers

LOS ANGELES, Calif., Oct. 17.—Rodrigo Torres, Cayetano Cruz, Jesus Rivas and Victor Hernandez, arrested on the walnut pickers strike picket line in Pomona, near here, were offered dismissal of their charges of disturbing the peace, if they would promise: "1. Not to violate the law in the future, 2. Not to sue complaining witnesses or arresting officer for false arrest, 3. Not to picket on private property, and 4. To come to the Mexican Consul on all matters concerning strikes in the future."

They refused and workers in the court room joined them in protesting this strikebreaking maneuver. The pickers are on strike for 60c, instead of the 40c a sack that was being paid. Some growers granted the demands.

Marguez, Mexican Consul, was exposed by the I. L. D. attorney, Grover C. Johnson, so completely as to leave the workers disgusted with his strikebreaking maneuver. The trials are scheduled for Oct. 24, at the Pomona court house.

MEMBERS OF A. F. OF L. APPLE PACKERS EXPOSES LEADER

Sells Took Part With Hoodlums That Wrecked Workers Hall

WATSONVILLE, Calif., Oct. 20.—For more than two months now we have been listening to the fake leadership in the Apple Workers Auxiliary of the Vegetable Packers Association, affiliated with the A. F. of L. They tell us to be patient, that "prosperity is just around the corner." But the time has come for we rank and file members of the union to ask the following questions:

Who are these leaders in our union? Who appointed them? In whose interest are they working? Whom do they represent? Are they honest workers? What is their history?

They do not represent us, and as long as they are in the leadership we are going to work under miserable conditions—which can only be remedied through a powerful strike.

Who, for instance, is Mr. Sells, our present leader, and why has he given the position. Last spring, when the lettuce workers went on strike under the leadership of the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union, Mr. Sells was one of the leaders of the American Legion and Chamber of Commerce mob that smashed up our headquarters.

When the bosses broke the strike and smashed our hall, they thought they also broke the spirit of the workers. But they are mistaken. Wherever one goes, in the orchards, camps, pool halls, streets, workers are talking about forming a real organization.

Fellow workers, we must demand the resignation of the fakers, elect our own leaders from the rank and file, and organize every worker in this district, including Americans, Filipino, Yugoslav, Japanese and Mexicans—and fight, because we have the power.

—Worker Correspondent.

JURY DEADLOCKED IN S. F. CIGAR STRIKE TRIALS

Second Trial of Leaders Set For Oct. 25

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 21.—Deadlocked for five and a half hours, the jury in the trials of four pickets arrested in the cigarmakers' strike, was dismissed and a second trial set for Wednesday, Oct. 25th.

The four, charged with "riot" and breaking the anti-picketing ordinance, were Walter Lambert, District organizer of the Trade Union Unity League; Henry Rother, organizer of the Workers Ex-Servicemen's League; George Morse and Angelo Guerrero.

The trial, which lasted two days, was filled with such glaring contradictions and lies of prosecution witnesses, all being policemen, that several times the court room packed with workers, was filled with laughter or suppressed boos.

International Labor Defense Attorney George Anderson exploded the closing argument of the prosecutor hired by the Marica Petri Cigar Co., who tried to railroad the defendants to jail as outside, dangerous agitators, by claiming that until the four were on the picket line the strike had been peaceful. "Why did the police arrest 40 of these peaceful pickets the morning before?" demanded Anderson.

The other forty defendants remaining to be tried for breaking the anti-picketing ordinance in the

Steiger, Fascist Judge in Election Gesture, Frees Diaz

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 18.—Foreed by mass pressure to dismiss an old charge against John Diaz, candidate for supervisor on the Communist ticket, Judge Steiger tried to create the impression that he was dismissing the charge because of humanitarian motives, saying that "the defendant is a poor man and cannot afford to pay an attorney." The charge, six months old, grew out of a North Beach eviction case. Diaz had pleaded not guilty and demanded a jury trial. The I. L. D. was prepared to defend him.

This is the same judge who recently, when the attorney for a number of strikers who were arrested for picketing, read off such names as "Arguello," "Pico," "Diaz," etc., mumbled, "Foreigners! Fine Americans!"

We can remember when the name Steiger was not very popular in San Francisco County. The Steigers were looked upon as spies. And we might remind Judge Steiger that, throughout California, buildings and streets have Spanish names, such as Arguello, Pico and Diaz. We are sure these fine Spanish names will live in history when the name of Steiger has been forgotten as yesterday's breakfast.

—Worker Correspondent.

strike were put over to a later date by Judge Prendergast, the prosecution figuring they had a better chance to railroad the four if tried separately.

PAY-CUTS AND THE APPRENTICE RACKET AT MARE ISLAND

Worker Writes of Navy Yard Conditions

VALLEJO, Calif., Oct. 18.—At Mare Island navy yard wages have been cut 15 per cent and the week has been shortened so that we make only enough to exist on. It is impossible for workers to advance. Some of the apprentices who have been working for three years are only making \$9.30 a week, while others who have served their time have not been able to get mechanics' wages, although they are doing the work.

A lot of us would like to belong to a union, but there is nothing of that sort here that the majority could join. The machinists have a union, and the clerks belong to the "Union of Federal Employees," which is strictly a white-collar organization. Why don't you send a speaker up here to help us organize?

When the NRA went into effect, they cut our wages a day per week and only made the week four hours shorter. This raised such a storm of protests they "re-adjusted" the week so that we work four and one-half days one week and five and a half the next. (Throwing us a bone to keep up quiet).

—Worker Correspondent.

(You should get in touch with the Trade Union Unity League, at 645 22nd street, Oakland. They will give you help in organizing.—Editor).

Western Worker Article Stirs Pabco Workers

OAKLAND, Calif., Oct. 20.—I was a worker in the Pabco Co. shop. I want to thank the Western Worker for publishing my article and putting it into the hands of my fellow workers.

The company officials "answered" my letter by issuing a statement of the present wage level.

Before the NRA I got \$25.50 a week for a 48-hour week—53c an hour. I am still getting 53c an hour but the hours have been cut 8 per week, which amounts to \$4.25 less. This was the cut spoken of.

In their statement the company states they are paying above minimum, but they forget to say anything about speed-up, which is being felt all over the place.

The company says they are operating 100% under the NRA. But why could not the plant pay the same weekly wage for 40 hours as for 48 hours? —Pabco Worker.

A Foot Pedal Next?

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 20.—They have instituted a new system of speed-up in my office. I now have earphones and a chest mouthpiece and am supposed to type at the same time I talk over the phone. It is rather hard on the nerves and my ear is quite sore at present from the earphones. I am doing twice the work now that I was doing previously.

You see, under the NRA I can work only 40 hours a week and so I have to make up the day I miss. They have not hired anyone to help out here. —Stenographer.

FOREIGN NEWS BRIEFS

Chiang Desperate At Red Gains

SHANGHAI, Oct. 17.—Obviously in an effort to veil the huge gains being made by the Chinese Red Army, Chiang Kai Shek reports preparations for still another drive on the Soviet Territories, this time in conjunction with the Cantonese, and the 19th Route Army.

The Red forces in the meantime are making the most sweeping gains of the year, having entered Northeast Szechwan, the 4th, 9th and 24th Communist Armies gaining thousands of new recruits. The advance sweeping towards the two important cities, Chunking and Wuhsian, now extends along a line through Shensi, Honan and Anhwei provinces. The Nationalist Yeh Sin's army was virtually annihilated while the cities Yengshan, Shenking, Kungun, Sanhuei and Chuhshien were captured.

Chiang Kai Shek, in an effort to popularize his new campaign, which few take seriously, has offered rewards for the heads of the Communist Generals, starting with \$100,000 for either Comrades Chu Teh, or Mao Teh-Tsung alive, or \$50,000 for each dead. A graduated scale is further announced for the lesser leaders of the glorious Red Army.

Japans Plans Another Puppet State

KWEIHUA, Inner Mongolia.—At a conference of Mongolian princes and Lamas, a decision undoubtedly inspired by Japanese agents, was made to present Nanking with an ultimatum, that if Inner Mongolia is not granted self-rule, they will appeal to Manchukuo for aid. Inner Mongolia is a huge slice of territory lying between Manchukuo and the Peoples Mongolian Republic, and is strategically situated for an invasion of the Soviet Union.

Arabs in Anti-Jewish Demonstration

JERUSALEM, Palestine, Oct. 17.—A large demonstration of Arabs was suppressed by the British police and Zionist Fascists after at least a dozen were hurt. The natives demonstrated against the increased sale of lands to Jews. The Communist Party is calling upon the Arab and Jewish toiling masses to unite against the British imperialists and their Zionist agents.

Siam Revolt Spreads

BANGKOK, Siam.—A revolt which threatens the overthrow of the Siam monarchy, is gaining support and menaces the capitol. The navy is said to be behind the revolt. King Prajadhipok expressed great alarm over the "increase of Communistic tendencies."

Soviet Nails A. F. of L. Lie

MOSCOW, USSR, Oct. 17.—In answer to the lying charge of the American Federation of Labor convention, which adopted a resolution likening the Soviet Union to Hitler's Germany, suppressing trade unions, the Izvestia, stated that in the Soviet Union only 16,000,000 of the 20,000,000 eligible to trade unions are organized. Membership into trade unions is not compulsory.

Nazi Action Due to Weakened Support

BERLIN, Oct. 18.—That the Nazi move to withdraw from the League of Nations, and for armament, is closely connected with the weakened support for Hitler within the country was clearly demonstrated. Only 18 hours after the withdrawal announcement, billboards and a flood of election propaganda "to unite the people behind the government" appeared on the streets. The Nazi action setting the elections for Nov. 12 is to regain support among many of their followers which they gained on the promise that the Versailles treaty will be challenged.

Workers Home Is Saved By Militant Jobless Paper

SEATTLE, Wash., Oct. 19.—The "Voice of Action," organ of the Unemployed Citizens' League, saved the home of George Edwards when the New (raw) Deal wouldn't.

Edwards, an ex-member of the UCL, was served with an eviction notice. He applied for a home loan, only to be refused. The local head of the home loan apparatus, established by the super-demagogue, F. D. R., told him "the government is not buying homes for workers."

Edwards wrote a signed exposure which was printed in the "Voice of Action," under the heading "Roosevelt Hasn't Saved My Home." Today, for the time at least, the home of this worker and his family is safe.

Oakland Unemployed Make Supervisors Stop Eviction

OAKLAND, Calif., Oct. 18.—A committee from the Unemployed Council yesterday at the Board of Supervisors forced the stopping of an eviction of an unemployed worker and his family and the appointment of free legal aid to get him a Federal loan. Medical attention was secured for one of the children who was ill.

Later the supervisors promised a delegation from the United Front Committee on Unemployment and Relief of Alameda County, to pass a resolution they demand for cash relief and against forced labor and forward it to the State Unemployment Relief Committee as soon as possible.

HOW WE ORGANIZED THE HUNGER MARCH IN LOS ANGELES

By E. HANOFF

Defeatist and pessimistic tendencies among some leading comrades in the Los Angeles Section of the Communist Party were dealt a severe blow on Oct. 2 when the jobless turned out in the greatest demonstration that Los Angeles ever saw.

The Communists within such organizations of the unemployed as the Unemployed Councils, Relief Workers Protective Union, Unemployed Cooperative Relief Assn., Unemployed Veterans League, Unemployed Taxpayers League, etc., had been agitating against the 20% cut in relief proposed by the county officials in August. Despite the poor relationship of the section leadership with the unemployed work, in a few days time 15,000 were mobilized at the Plaza on Aug. 22 to protest the cut. This forced the county to delay it.

The Party leadership was isolated from the problems of the jobless. For instance, the Party fraction spent hours the night before the demonstration arguing on the number of speakers. There was no Party steering committee at the demonstration, and we even witnessed the spectacle of comrades arguing at the platform about the arrangements. Organizational results for the Party were poor—about a half dozen applications. Some of the leading comrades were so pessimistic before the demonstration as to predict that not more than 3,000 would respond.

The demonstration developed considerable enthusiasm among the Party members and a decision was made to follow up with further action, and although still in

adequately prepared, a preliminary conference of the left wing workers' organizations was called for Sept. 2. The attendance was 170 delegates of 41 organizations. This time, however, better preparations were made by the leading fraction within the unemployed organizations. It was with the help of its proposals that the conference was able to carry into effect the policy for the Hunger March.

PLAN HUNGER MARCH

Enthusiastic discussion followed reports on conditions and presentation of proposals, and a call was sent out for an enlarged united front conference. The conference was organized into subcommittees, consisting of publicity committee, enlarged speakers committee, finance committee, enlarged visiting committee to visit trade unions, mass organizations, churches, etc., and a committee to get a permit for the Hunger March. It was decided also to distribute 5,000 stickers, 50,000 leaflets, 100,000 throw-aways, 5,000 copies of a special edition of the WESTERN WORKER, 20,000 copies of THE HUNGER FIGHTER, and 600 placards and streamers. Participant organizations were to issue leaflets under their own names.

A tremendously enlarged second conference was held on Sunday, Sept. 17, at which 233 accredited delegates from 143 organizations, representing 60,000 workers, were present. In addition to the delegates 500 workers also participated. All subcommittees reported on progress, the main report being made in the name of the United Front Conference. A comrade, greeting the conference in the

Lessons Must Be Learned To Be Able To Organize Powerful March on November 7th

name of the Party received unanimous enthusiastic applause.

Proposals to intensify activities included the calling of a one-day strike on all relief jobs and the withholding of all workers' children from school on the day of the Hunger March. All proposals and demands were unanimously adopted. All subcommittees were enlarged to involve a still greater number in the mobilization work.

A final check-up conference was decided upon, to consist of one delegate from each of the participating organizations. The conference, held on Sunday, September 24, was by far the most enthusiastic and best organized one ever held in Los Angeles, lasting from 1 p. m. until 6 p. m.

PARTY MOBILIZED

Four weeks in advance one of the leading members of the Section Committee bureau was assigned to devote full time to Hunger March work. The Party units were given instructions in two organizational letters during the month preceding the March, on how to mobilize the Party and to link up all activity with the Hunger March preparations. Organize street meetings, indoor neighborhood meetings, reach factory workers, secure subscriptions, sell the WESTERN WORKER and the DAILY WORKER everywhere, recruit Party members, each unit issue leaflets in their various territories in the name of the Party, were some of the tasks outlined for Party activity. On the day of the Hunger

March each unit assigned two of its leading comrades to do recruiting and one each to sell and secure subscriptions for the WESTERN WORKER and DAILY WORKER. Hard and enthusiastic work of the rank and file comrades resulted in excellent organizational results. Hundreds of indoor and open air meetings were held and about 500,000 leaflets and throwaways were systematically distributed for the March.

During the preparation over 100 new applications were received and on the day of the Hunger March more than 400 made application for membership in the Party, and 200 in the Young Communist League, making contact with many shop workers.

SOME LIVE IN THE PAST

Some leading comrades on the Section Committee, still living in the past, unable to adapt themselves to the changed situation, did not realize the significance of the Hunger March. They could not feel the pulse of the masses and obviously misunderstood the application of the Open Letter in this field of activity. Some took the attitude that a Hunger March is the property of the unemployed and they alone should be responsible for its organization. Such viewpoints were expressed in a concealed form.

These comrades were incapable of understanding the relationship between the struggles of the employed and unemployed; failed to understand the political importance of mobilizing 500,000 on relief to fight for bread, while the bosses

are cutting relief to the bone, and about all failed to fully realize the fighting mood of the workers.

At a Section Committee meeting a week following the first conference, some leading comrades devoted their time to arguing against the slogan of "100,000 Will March" instead of helping to mobilize workers to fulfill the slogan. Displaying defeatism and sectarian bureaucracy these comrades argued that the figure should be cut down to twenty or thirty thousand. Isolation from the masses, misunderstanding their problems and feelings, under-estimation and lack of faith in the masses brought about this attitude. Furthermore, changing the slogan would have meant the disregarding of the desire and authority of the United Front Conference of 143 organizations, which had already adopted the slogan.

In spite of these and many other shortcomings, full mobilization of the capitalist press, the police force, "red squad," terrorism, for two weeks prior to the Hunger March, climaxed by a last-minute refusal of a parade permit, over 40,000 men, women and children participated in the largest, most militant demonstration ever held by the working class in Los Angeles.

LAST MINUTE RESISTANCE

At a special Section Committee meeting the night before the March, called to consider the emergency created by the refusal of the permit which had already been promised, some of the comrades proposed capitulating to the

police by the carrying on of a "whispering campaign" to tell the workers where to go instead of the proposal of the section bureau which called for one speaker at each of the six concentration points. These comrades were also unable to understand the bureau's proposal to present a motion to the March at the Plaza for another Hunger March on November 7, if the demands were not granted. "How can we tell," they asked, "what kind of a response we will have and what importance does the date, November 7, have for the workers?"

The night before the March some of the leading comrades were still pessimistic, remarking that "maybe there will be a few thousand workers at the Plaza tomorrow," but the marvelous turnout of the workers demonstrated the correctness of the slogan adopted by the Conference and belied the pessimism of these comrades.

These leading comrades also objected to Comrade Ross's speeches at the second enlarged Conference and at the Plaza to the Hunger Marchers because he included in his speeches calls to the workers to build a mass Communist Party. The Party was brought forward too "openly," they said. This "red scare," "hide the Party's face" opportunism was answered by the workers by thunderous applause for the Party and hundreds of applications.

Comparing the two demonstrations, held on Aug. 22 and Oct. 2, we get the following: The Aug. 22 demonstration was left to the Communists in the unemployed organ-

izations alone, with little or no guidance from the Section Committee. The Oct. 2 demonstration was planned and organized by the Section Committee, with the full mobilization of the Party. In addition to the organizational gains for the Communist Party, and the many organizations it leads, it proved to the Los Angeles workers that it is capable of leading them.

SHORTCOMINGS

The shortcomings can be summed up as follows:

1. We failed to give enough initiative to non-Party elements, especially in unemployed organizations, and make them feel that it was their Hunger March.
2. We failed to organize job committees on the county jobs, did not hold sufficient meetings on the jobs, had no systematic leaflet distribution and very few pickets.
3. We failed to have sufficient check-up and guidance to locals of unemployed organizations and small towns throughout the county.
4. A distinct disorganizing effect resulted from the bureaucratically changing of the time of the final check-up meeting, originally scheduled for 11 a. m. on the 24th, to 2 p. m.
5. Lack of militancy and capitulation to the police on the part of some Party members at some of the six concentration points and along the line of march.
6. Despite endorsement by the Conference of the demand for Federal Unemployment Insurance, it

was left out of the demands entirely, not brought to the fore. 7. Failure to establish a broader relationship between the Hunger March and the employed workers.

TASKS FOR NOV. 7

1. To raise the coming Hunger March to a higher plane we must not become self-satisfied, but rather put all our efforts to carrying out the following:
1. Activity must be more intensified on the basis of the local struggles and we should strive to establish united fronts on the basis of struggles in each locality. This should prove one of the best means for bringing all organizations of the unemployed and individuals under the leadership of the Unemployed Councils, and to cement a powerful mass movement for the struggles this winter.
2. Still broader masses and their organizations should be won for the Nov. 7th Hunger March. The central demand must be Unemployment Insurance and the forcing of concessions for the coming winter.
3. Through the unemployed organizations we should be able to organize many of the workers still working in shops or part time, yet dependent upon relief. They should furnish contact with trade union and shop workers.
4. The new applicants for the Party should be immediately activated, and through them still other workers, their relatives, friends, etc., should be won for the Party.



BRIGHT SAYINGS OF CHILDREN:
"There are no Nazi organizations in America. The Friends of New Germany are loyal American citizens."—H. P. Lohman.

"Most of the blanket codes have turned out to be crazy quilts," writes in P. G. And the striking sardine fishermen evidently figured it would be as full of holes as their nets, so they struck until they'd won their right themselves.

TEARJERKING GLIMPSES OF THE BOURGEOISIE:

An Eastern restaurant keeper recently asked the NRA for help because one of his boys eats too much, and the code only allowed him to charge 25c a meal. The hungry lad "eats so much that I can't afford to give him a meal for a quarter," wailed the boss. But he admitted he gets so much work out of him in his part-time job that he can't afford to fire him, either.

With less than 5% of the codes submitted in operation, and a wave of strikes all over the country, no wonder the Buzzard is Blue.

BARTER BARGAINS:

Grave plot (Acacia Cemetery) for used car.—Ad in Seattle paper.

Four of the new poison gases discovered by the U. S. War Department are monofluorodichlorosilane, difluorodichlorosilane, fluoromono-chlorophosphene and monofluorodichlorophosphene. From the names you can get the idea how deadly the gasses are.

The California National Bank closed last winter, has written checks for 20% of the accounts. Two thousand of these checks haven't yet been claimed. A. T. tells us, adding that the 2000 probably died waiting for the bank to open.

A Richmond worker writes:

Henry Ford hired a worker, giving him a job to operate with one hand. The boss, by the end of the week began speeding up, and by the end of the week he was working both hands and running with both feet. So he went and asked the boss for a broom. "What do you want a broom for?" asked the boss, astonished. "So I can stick it up my mouth and sweep the floor at the same time."

What is more minimum than a minimum wage?

MUSICIANS!

All who can play band instruments and want to help in the organization of a workers band are urged to attend a meeting for that purpose Thursday, Oct. 26, at 6:30 p. m. sharp, at 3470 19th street.

Cotton Strike and Soviet Films Are Toured in Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 26.—The Soviet movie "1905," together with films of Lenin in action, the building of Socialism in the USSR and newsreels of the grape and cotton strikes in the San Joaquin valley, will be shown again in this city at Franklin Hall, 1859 Fillmore street, Tuesday, Oct. 31. The films of the cotton strike have just been made by the Film and Foto League and not been previously shown.

Comrade Royce of the Western Worker Film Distributors is touring this movie program in California cities. It will be shown in San Jose, Friday, Oct. 27, at 81 Post street, Fresno, Sunday, Oct. 29, and in Berkeley, Monday, Oct. 30, at Comrades Hall, 1819 10th street.

Soviet Films

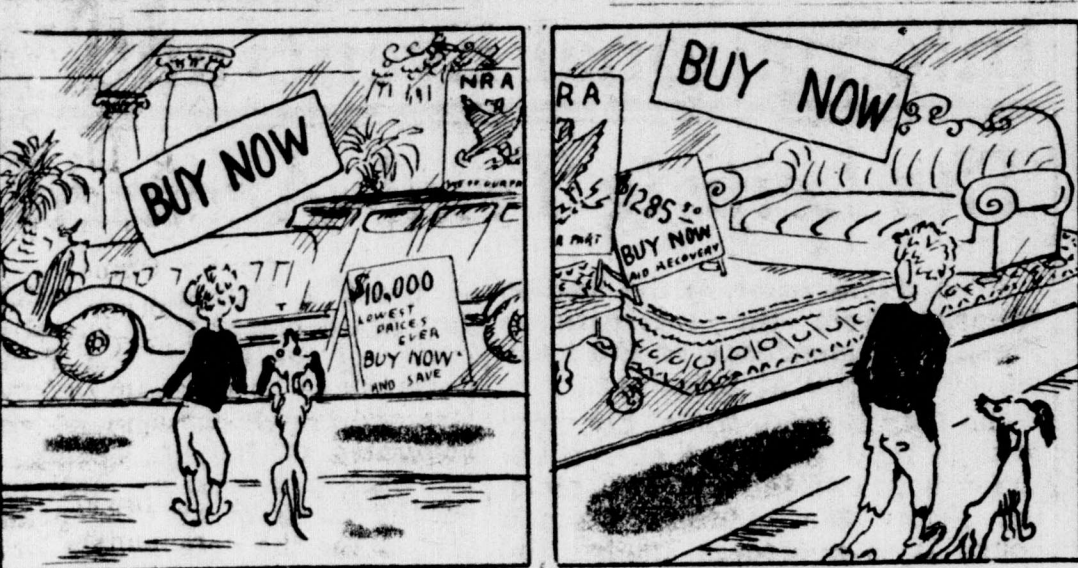
Show them in your meeting room. We run the show for you on fireproof film.

SPREAD THE TRUTH! ENTERTAIN! RAISE MONEY

WESTERN WORKER
Film Exhibitors
37 Grove Street, S. F.

LOS ANGELES WORKERS! COME TO THIS EXTRAORDINARY CONCERT
Music—Entertainment—Drama—Good Food
SUNDAY, Nov. 5th, 8 P. M., 214 LOMA DRIVE, L. A.
Funds for the
DAILY and WESTERN WORKER
HELP RAISE \$1,000 FOR THE DAILY WORKER IN LOS ANGELES

Jerry And His Homeless Hound



FELICE & PERRELLI CANNERY BIG SWEAT SHOP FOR 800

Two Families Organized To Sap Profits Out of Workers

RICHMOND, Calif., Oct. 17.—A big, fire-proof factory, gleaming white under the California sun. The hated NRA sign displayed over the entrance doors. This is Felice and Perrelli's, fruit canners, pointed out to visitors by ardent "boosters" as a "model plant," but to its 800 men and women workers a super sweat-shop.

The average wage of a woman worker at Felice and Perrelli's is \$2.50 a day. Many make only \$2. It is piece work. Cutters and pitters are paid ten cents a box, and they work at top speed from 6:30 a. m. until 7 or 7:30 p. m., with a half hour off for lunch and an hour for supper. Eleven hours' work—and its drive, drive, all day long.

The more than 400 men work longer hours than the women—from 4 a. m. on through to 7:30 or 8 o'clock, with maybe a half-hour for lunch, or an hour. There is no lunch room. In the lavatories no paper towels—no soap. No paper in the toilets; it is put in at morning and gone by noon. Safety conditions are lax. And the uniforms the girls wear? It takes beginners two days' wages to pay for them. They also have to buy rubber aprons.

There are 18 in control of the company, these 18 representing two families. Needless to say, the relatives of the two families, some 75 persons, hold the best jobs in the plant. Every foreman has a family connection with the management. The superintendent's wife is head floor-lady. The cashier's wife and sister both work in the time of office—and the superintendent's wife's cousin operates a storage battery truck. This fellow, when he first started operating the truck, jeopardized plenty of lives.

—Cannery Worker.

Needle Strike

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3.) provided only to union members, a maneuver aimed at splitting the strikers, nearly half of whom are not members of the A. F. of L. union. Bill Busick, "Socialist" Party faker, who was "on the rocks financially" until he was made publicity manager for the strike, refused to give any information to a representative of the Western Worker, the only working class paper fighting in the interests of the strikers. This sabotage is based on fear of exposure of the tactics of the misleaders.

Tom Mann in S. F.

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3.) United States to participate in the Anti-War Congress in New York last year, has been an active fighter in the ranks of the workers for most of his 77 years. His great organizational ability was first shown in the British dock workers strike in 1889, and for the following 16 years he was the president of the Dock Workers of Great Britain. At present he is a member of the Executive Committee of the Red International of Labor Unions, and is one of the outstanding international leaders in the fight against imperialism. His tour is of particularly great importance, as the breakdown of the "disarmament" conference, and the belligerence of Fascist Germany in a world of capitalist crisis makes the fight of the workers for peace one of their greatest struggles at present.

Watch Out For Strike Relief Racketeers!

Comrades throughout the state and particularly of the East Bay area are urged to be on the look-out for racketeers that are using the cotton strike as a means for collecting money and pocketing it themselves.

A so-called professor by the name of Wilson of the "Berkeley Philosophers' Club" is reported to have collected \$20 or more and 500 pounds of food, and an Allan Clark, identified with J. Stitt Wilson in recent questionable activities involving workers' funds, is reported to be making a racket of strike relief.

The Workers International Relief and the International Labor Defense are the only organizations authorized by the several strike relief committees to collect food, funds, etc. Credentials are easily identified, and no contributions should be given to anyone without proper credentials or known to be responsible.

SAN BERNARDINO JOBLESS DEMAND RELIEF RAISE

Call Conference To Map United Action

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif., Oct. 11.—A mass committee of 250 workers from the Relief Workers Protective Union presented to the Board of Supervisors Monday the demands of the jobless for \$4 for a 6-hour work day, minimum of 10 days per family of two, and two additional days for each dependent per month, abolition of forced labor, and other demands. The Supervisors refused either to endorse or to reject the demands. A conference with delegates from surrounding towns is now being called to outline united action to be taken. Partial gains, however, have resulted from the organized action of the unemployed in that beginning with this week the average amount given families on relief will be \$19.50 a week, at the rate of \$3.20 a work day, with additional work for men with larger families.

A committee, which called on the mayor demanding the re-instatement of a worker fired for organizing others into the R. W. P. U. won this point, with full pay for the worker for the days he was laid off.

Nut Contractor Cheats Workers

SANTA PAULA, Calif., Oct. 18.—The situation existing in Santa Paula could not be worse for the worker. Here the blood-sucking contractors carry on a system of peonage and exploitation, and it seems we are almost living in the Stone Age.

In the walnut country there is a contractor named Merced Luca. This parasite has a contract to pick nuts at \$18.50 per ton, and he pays the workers at 40 cents per sack. These sacks are large, holding 90 pounds, and he demands that we shake them down so they will hold more. In this way he probably makes 20 cents more on each sack.

For these same sacks, the workers would receive 60 cents, if there did not exist a system of racketeering in Ventura County. Wages would be better if the contractors, who are totally without conscience, were eliminated. We should organize in the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union.

—Worker Correspondent.

S. F. Election Rally

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 1)

On Friday night at 7:45 over radio station KGGC John Diaz and Jim Tracy will speak for a few minutes. The broadcasts, at which the other four candidates have already spoken, have so far shown discrimination against the Workers candidates. They have not been allowed to bring in any of their platform, and have been cut less than their time allowance, where incumbent candidates were given extra time.

At the Tom Mann meeting Oct. 27 Louise Todd will be one of the main speakers.

The Hon. Supervisor Peyser

SAN FRANCISCO—When protests started pouring in against the city permitting the display of the Nazi flag during the German Day celebration here, some supervisors running for re-election saw their chance for a bid to the large German vote here. Among the alert ones are Supervisors Hayden and Peyser.

Peyser hastened to issue a statement which received wide publicity, resigning from the arrangements committee, and "that his views on fascism are too well known and little need be said."

Of course, his resignation was unnecessary, for the committee through the person of his friend in distress, Emmett Hayden, declared that "many riots and demonstrations are feared—the whole thing is off," and this was due to pressure from the many workers organizations.

But we might look at the record of these "anti-fascist champions" and see what they do in practice. Last December, an outfit naming itself "The American Centurians"

STRIKERS, SMALL FARMERS TELL FACTS

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 7.) a day. With straight faces they testified that farmers furnished "cabins, water, lights, wood, stoves and beds" besides paying the huge amount of 60c per 100 pounds.

WORKERS DEMOLISH LIES
The workers presented statistics and the striking cotton pickers themselves.

One after another they took the stand. Men and women in tattered clothing. Emaciated children without shoes or underwear, who testified they worked from dawn to dusk. Mexicans, Negroes and whites. Ex-farmers on whom the banks had foreclosed. Mechanics driven to the agricultural fields in search of a living.

One after another they exposed the lies of the growers. Miserable wages, no sanitary facilities; foul, inhuman conditions. Treated worse than cattle. These workers, many of them cotton pickers for 20 to 40 years, proved that the highest average for a good picker was 200 pounds per day. And of the four months season, at least one month they were compelled to lay off by rain, fog, accidents, illness.

When asked whether farmers furnished any facilities, the reply of one worker was characteristic of all: "We don't get a damned thing we don't pay for."

A Mexican woman with eight children was asked whether she could clothe her children on the wages earned from cotton picking. "My children haven't had shoes since 1930," was her reply. They testified that the highest they could average at 60c per 100 pounds would be \$1.20 per day. Out of this amount they were expected to buy their food and clothing, medicine, sacks for picking, bedding, kerosene for lamps and gasoline for cars that were indispensable to workers with families, compelled to live like gypsies.

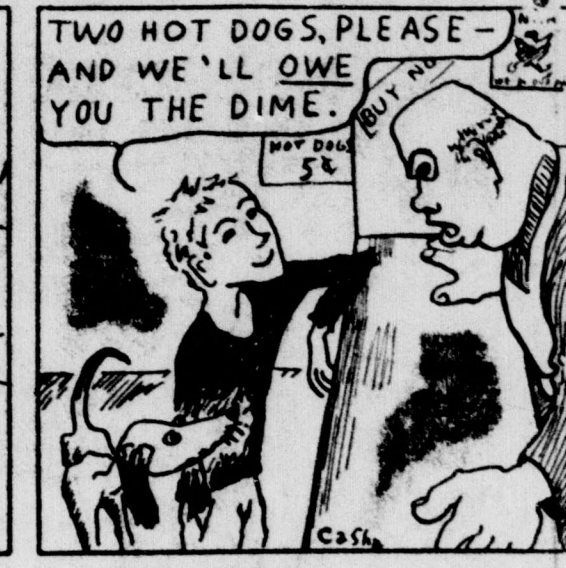
"We might as well starve to death while striking as while working," declared one worker.

SMALL FARMER TESTIFIES

Like a bomb shell in the ranks of the rich growers and bankers came the unexpected testimony of N. B. Kearney, a small farmer from the Corcoran area. He made a sensational exposure of the fact that the violence against the strikers had been organized four days before the Pixley shooting at a meeting of the growers held in the Corcoran ball park. He accused L. D. Ellett, chairman of the Kings County growers committee, of urging those at that meeting "to take the law into their own hands" and to "arm and drive the strikers out."

Kearney also exposed the methods by which the small farmers in the valley are being squeezed to death by the banks, finance companies and the San Joaquin Power and Light Co. His courageous testimony proved what the strikers understood—that the common enemy of both small farmer and striker are these agencies which tried to establish 300 to 400 pounds per day as an average for a cotton picker, while the thousand pickers present laughed aloud. One grower even spoke of 500 pounds

By Shane and Casimir



SECOND NATIONAL FARM CONFERENCE CHICAGO NOV. 15-18

Backed By 60,000 in 34 Affiliated Organizations

WASHINGTON D. C., Oct. 20.—Backed by 60,000 farmers and 34 affiliated farm organizations, the National Committee for Action has issued a call to farmers from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Gulf to Canada to send delegates to the Second National Farmers Conference to be held at the People's Auditorium, Chicago, November 15-18.

The delegates will not only represent this country, however. The Farmers Union League of Canada reports that a large delegation will be sent.

Fully 1000 farmers are expected to make this conference one of the greatest gatherings of farmers in the history of the country. The meeting will take steps to build a united front of all bused, mortgaged and dispossessed farmers, for a national fight for real relief.

The Farmers National Committee of Action, set up at the Conference last year, consists of farmers belonging to the Grange, Farmers Union, Farm Holiday Association, United Farmers League, and various state protective associations and cooperatives are sending delegates.

All farmers and all farm organizations, local, state and national, are urged to order copies of the call and get further information from the executive secretary of the National Committee, Lem Harris, at 1622 H street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Sentence Gallup Strike Leaders

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 6.) food and exposure in the military stockade. The prisoners in the stockade are being denied any food for their refusal to dig latrine ditches for the militia.

The eight week of the strike finds the ranks as solid as the day the miners came out. The intense terrorism of the martial law, the starving of their leaders in the stockade, the new round of evictions in all camps, the sentence of Roberts, and their own lack of food has not demoralized them, and the picket lines are as strong as ever. But the National Miners Union appeals that all workers back them by immediately sending funds for relief. Local resources are exhausted. Rush funds to the N. M. U. Relief Committee, Box 218, Gallup, New Mexico.

The Allison mine has called in the strike committee to begin negotiations and Southwestern is already working, fully granting the strikers demands. But including these the total of coal produced is not more than one-third of the usual output for this area—and at a season when output should increase. The few scabs working in other mines are old men, cripples, and farmers, and being green are doing considerable damage.

OFFERS BLACKLIST

The conference called by Gov. Hockenbush in Santa Fe last week was not attended by the operators. They have consistently refused to meet with the strikers, instead trying to break the strike with terrorism. Nevertheless, they had a good agent in the governor; who tried to get the strikers to agree to go back to work on the basis that scabs be retained and only 80% of the strikers be re-hired, an action which would result in the black-listing of all the strike leaders.

Throughout the strike area picket lines strengthened and are more militant. Today, at Corcoran, 2500 pickets cleared off the few scabs from the Overland and other ranches, bringing picking to a total standstill.

The strikers were attacked by deputized growers, several of whom were given a severe beating by the workers. Five workers were arrested. The call for mass picketing received an enthusiastic response from all points in the strike area.

At Mendota and Firebaugh deputies are making a desperate effort to prevent the spread of the strike to that region, and are stopping all traveling cars. Five of the Pixley growers charged with murder were released.

Join the Communist Party, which leads the fights of the workers and farmers.

Western Worker

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WHERE TO GO

REV. BEN WILSON speaks at Scottish Rite Auditorium, Sutter entrance, on Fri., Nov. 3rd, 8 p. m., on "My Experiences in U. S. S. R." Ben Wilson is an outstanding speaker, humorous and well-informed. Come and celebrate the 16th Anniversary of the Soviet Union with the F. S. U.

OCTOBER CELEBRATION—Sat., Oct. 28. Play, speakers, fine eats, dancing. Free chance to R. C. A. superheterodyne Portable Radio. Raffle tickets good for admission, 1223 Fillmore. Ausp. Financial Comm., Dist. 13.

Fishermen Win

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 4) held in escrow.

The strike, conducted by the Boatowners' Sardine Fishermen's Association, and the Fishermen and Cannery Workers Industrial Union, composed of the boatpullers and cannery workers, was conducted by rank and file control, thus preventing the maneuvers of fakers to settle the strike for the bosses.

During the strike more than 90% of the boatpullers joined the F. and C. W. I. U., which is affiliated with the TUUL.

Last year the cannery got state permission to increase the sardines reduced to oil and meal, claiming they could thus pay the fishermen \$5 a ton. After getting the permission they only paid half the former price and pocketed the difference. This year on the same plea they got permission to increase the fertilizer again, and then tried to get away with lower wages. But the strikers refused to be fooled by their promises.

Renegade Tries To Get Bishop Jailed

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 19.—Workers are again warned against one Jack Robinson, expelled from the Young Communist League last winter for active race prejudice against Negroes. Recently he was put out of the Fillmore Workers Center for drunkenness and rowdy conduct by Comrade Jack Bishop. Last Friday, as Louise Todd and Bishop were leaving the court room, where Bishop's trial for activity in the cigarmakers strike was postponed, Robinson accosted him, and following him for blocks, shouted insults at the two Workers Candidates in an attempt to provoke a fight and cause Bishop's arrest.

S. F. Jobless March

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 4) with high prices. DEMAND CASH.

3. No evictions or moving around of unemployed and their families.
4. No gas, electric or water shut-offs.
5. Accident insurance on relief jobs.
6. Endorsement of Federal Unemployment Insurance at the expense of bosses and government.
7. Participation in distribution of relief by the committees of unemployed duly elected.

Strikebreaker

William J. Glancy, an unemployed cook and charity worker, has been expelled from the Communist Party for his conduct during the recent strike of longshoremen on the Matson docks in San Francisco. Though he had never worked on a dock in his life, and was fully conscious of his actions, he worked as a scab during the strike. He believes he did no wrong in scabbing, saying he needed the money. The Communist Party, which supports any struggles of the workers, whether led by the Party or not, can not tolerate such actions on the part of any of its members, and Glancy was immediately expelled.

—Disciplinary Committee, Dist. 13.

LOS ANGELES CELEBRATE WORKERS OCTOBER with the

UNITED FRONT CONFERENCE FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE 16TH ANNIVERSARY MASON THEATRE, 127 So. Broadway Tuesday, Nov. 7th, 8 p. m. Adm. 25c
Rebel Players—International Chorus—SAM DARCY, Speaker. Workers and sympathetic organizations will appear in a body to greet the COMMUNIST PARTY on sixteen years of Socialist construction in the Soviet Union.

SAVE THIS DATE! Nov. 3-4-5 for the Big ICOR Bazaar, 1740 O'Farrell St. Good talents will provide daily entertainment. Restaurant; home cooked meals and short orders at hardtime prices. Speakers—dancing every night. Adm. FREE. Ausp. ICOR Branches of S. F.

CANDIDATES DANCE, Nov. 4th, 8 p. m., 1223 Fillmore. All working class candidates will speak. Entertainment and eats. Adm. 25c, Unemployed 5c.

KEEP DEC. 16TH OPEN. Marine Workers Industrial Union is holding a dance and entertainment at 1223 Fillmore, to Benefit Org. Funds, on this date.

THE ELECTION RATIFICATION MEETING to be held at 1223 Fillmore on Oct. 24th, has been changed to Nov. 1st.

TRADE UNION UNITY LEAGUE will hold a gala entertainment from 10 a. m. to midnight, Nov. 19th, at the Finnish Hall, 20 Flint st. Dancing, singing, plays. A DAY OF EVENTS! Keep this date open. Adm. 15c.

OAKLAND

I. L. D. CARNIVAL, Sunday, Oct. 29th. Workers Center, 645 22nd st. Excellent program and dancing. 2 p. m. until 11 p. m. Three prizes will be raffled—1st prize, Radio; 2nd prize, Turquoise Brooch Pin; 3rd prize, Parker Fountain Pen. Tickets 10c. Office 1020 Broadway.

S. F. Election Rallies

MISSION

Tues.—21st and Mission, 7 p. m.
Tues.—24th and Bryant, 7:30 p. m.
Wed.—18th and Church, 8:30 p. m.
Wed.—21st and Mission, 7 p. m.
Thurs.—21st and Mission, 9 p. m.
Fri.—21st and Mission, 7 p. m.
Fri.—24th and Bryant, 7 p. m.
Sat.—Geneva and Mission, 7 p. m.
Sat.—24th and Mission, 7:30 p. m.
Sat.—18th and Mission, 7 p. m.
Sat.—Ellis and Fillmore, 7:30 p. m.
Sat.—21st and Mission, 7 p. m.
Sun.—Visitation Valley, 2 p. m.
Sun.—Southern Heights and De Haro, 2 p. m.
Mon.—21st and Mission, 7 p. m.

FILLMORE STREET

Fri.—O'Farrell and Fillmore, 7 p. m.
Sat.—Cole and Haight, 7 p. m.
Sat.—Divisadero and Fell, 7 p. m.
Sat.—Ellis and Fillmore, 6:30 p. m.
Sun.—Jefferson Park, 12:30 to 2 p. m.
Sun.—Ellis and Fillmore, 7 p. m.
Mon.—Ellis and Fillmore, 7 p. m.
Tues.—O'Farrell & Fillmore, 7 p. m.
Wed.—Ellis and Fillmore, 7 p. m.
Thurs.—Ellis and Fillmore, 7 p. m.
Fri.—Ellis and Fillmore, 7 p. m.

Y. C. L.

WED.—O'Farrell & Fillmore, 7 p. m.

DOWNTOWN SECTION

Every Monday, Post and Polk, 7 p. m.
Every Wednesday, Post and Polk, 7 p. m.
Every Saturday, Golden Gate and Hyde, 7 p. m.
Sunday, Oct. 29th, Harrison and Third streets, 3 p. m. (Spanish, Greek and English speakers).

NORTH BEACH

Wednesday, Oct. 25th, Jackson and Kearney, 7 p. m.
Friday, Oct. 27th, Green and Columbus avenue, 7 p. m.
Saturday, Oct. 28th, Sunday, Oct. 29th, Washington Park, 1 p. m.

WATERFRONT

Steuart and Mission
Monday—7:45 a. m.
Wednesday—7:45 a. m.
Friday—7:45 a. m.

Editorial Column

ARBITRATION--STRIKEBREAKING WEAPON

That arbitration is the principle strikebreaking weapon in the hands of the government is illustrated in a glaring manner, in the recent strikes of S. F. Longshoremen and San Joaquin cotton pickers. This old stand by the bosses is brought forward every time the workers show a militant spirit and unity in a strike.

It is based on the idea that there are three parties involved—Capitalist, Worker and "Public." The last is the main joker, for it is represented by the government, which is nothing other than an instrument of the capitalists for keeping the workers in subjection to the profit system. That makes two votes out of three on an arbitration committee for the employers. But even the representatives of the workers are generally chosen from the ranks of the A. F. of L. leaders who are nothing other than the agents of the bosses in the ranks of labor. So, with this scheme the cards are stacked against the workers even at the very best.

GRANT ONLY SMALL POINTS TO WORKERS

Decisions of arbitration committees are not against the workers on every point, lest the "impartial" scheme become thoroughly exposed to even the most backward workers. The usual method is to decide in favor of the workers on small matters, and in favor of the capitalists on all basic questions. A classic example is the strike of the S. F. Longshoremen. Four hundred struck on the Matson docks, demanding that four discharged for being members of the A. F. of L. International Longshoremen's Assn. be reinstated. The shipowners have thus far recognized only the "Blue Book," a scabherding company union. It is clear that the question here is: will the workers submit to the bosses' union, or will they force the recognition of what they at least now believe to be their own, the International Longshoremen's Assn.? That this issue can be decided only through a general strike is clear to all Longshoremen. The Matson dock workers figured that their walkout would be the beginning of a general strike. Even the boss press screamed out in alarm, with headlines that a strike on the entire coast is threatened. With lightning speed an arbitration committee was set up, headed by the strike-breaking Judge Rossi. The misleaders of the workers, Holman & Co., gladly accepted the committee. The workers were fooled into going back to work pending the decision on the four discharged men, as if that was the whole matter involved. The arbitration board saw that the shipowners were not yet fully equipped with scabs, while on the other hand the workers displayed militancy and solidarity. The four workers were therefore reinstated.

But there should be no illusions that this means a victory. The shipowners only want time. They will now follow the usual policy of firing the most advanced among the workers. Material out of which scabs are possible will be given special privileges. The Western Worker has already disclosed how in one case an attempt to fool Negro workers into strikebreaking was foiled by a TUUL member. The big job for the Arbitration Board will be when the big strike takes place—unless Holman & Co. can prevent it. Longshoremen should not forget that Holman's brother faker, John O'Connell, Secretary of the Central Labor Council, voted for the decision of the NRA board that the "Blue Book" Union is not a company union.

ARBITRATION FOR THE COTTON STRIKE

A different situation presents itself in the cotton fields. Here there was no hurry for an Arbitration Board. The growers were first given a chance to smash the strike with a murder campaign and lynch terror. But this failed completely. Instead the few fields not yet involved came out. The solidarity of the workers increased. Arbitration then came to the rescue of the growers. But fortunately, for the workers, the likes of Holman are not their leaders. They have courageous, honest, devoted fighters, such as the Communist, Comrade Pat Chambers, heading the struggle. The next step was therefore to fish out the "ace in the hole" that capitalism always has, the Criminal Syndicalism Law, and use it for getting Chambers and other leaders behind prison bars. The plan was to bring in the Mexican Consul to "champion" for the workers. But this is not the first strike this year. The workers have seen the Mexican Consul in his strikebreaking role in almost all previous agricultural strikes. All efforts to get the workers to return, pending arbitration, failed.

Finally even Creel was compelled to admit that those who could speak in behalf of the workers are in prison. The Arbitration Committee then was named merely a "fact finding board." By no means in a hurry, it slowly conducts its hearing and trips between San Francisco and the strike fields, while at least 5 children have already died of starvation. The growers have refused arbitration. But this should fool no one. They know that so bad is their case that no Arbitration Board could uphold them entirely, if it wants to give the slightest impression of being a "public body." How could they in the name of the "New Deal" government, decide that a maximum of \$1.20 per 10-hour pay, is adequate? They would have to give some concessions.

WORKERS SETTLEMENT PLAN IGNORED

Another important factor in the situation is that the Federal Government, whom Creel of the NRA represents, would just as soon see the cotton not picked. Are they not paying millions to farmers throughout the country to plow under their crops? The proposal of the strikers, that the contracts with the finance companies be cancelled, and the Federal Government through its agencies, establish a minimum price of 12 cents to the farmers, so they could pay the \$1.00 per hundred pounds for picking, is ignored, but millions are being paid, so that crops be destroyed, and pickers remain unemployed. That's how the AAA (Agricultural Adjustment Act) works.

Finally, the growers and their arbitrators are especially anxious to end the strikes through terror and starving the strikers out, because they know that a strong foundation for the Agricultural Workers Industrial Union in the cotton fields means that it is here to stay, and will protect the workers in all other fields to which they must migrate.

The only weapon in the hands of the workers is mass picketing. The tens of thousands on strike, their wives and children must organize marches from field to field, such as will force the growers and their government to realize that the workers are determined to fight to the end.

Already the strikers have proven to a large section of the farmers, particularly the small ones, that the fight is chiefly against the finance companies. In fact many of the farmers are already offering as high as \$1.00 per hundred.

The most significant development since the strike began is the ever widening split in the ranks of the growers, with the small ones realizing that their interests are closely tied up with the fight of the workers.

It is the Finance Companies, with the vigilantes at their service, that are preventing the mass of farmers from settling.

Victory is close at hand! A complete mobilization of all strikers for huge picket demonstration, assisted by Relief from all parts of California will finally put it over!

Rolph—"Only Those Authorized Should Carry Arms"



San Francisco Politicians Play with Cash Relief

By JOHN R. WEEKS

"I am 100 per cent for cash relief, BUT..." (Rossi).

San Francisco's City Hall "boys" are furnishing a particularly foul example of political dishonesty and time serving in connection with the distribution of relief to the unemployed. Under the direction of stage-manager Mayor Rossi they are putting on an act which would be funny if it were not for its cynical disregard of human misery. The average voter, purposely bewildered by the rapid change of costume and character on the part of the actors in the tragedy, is wondering what it is all about. The answer is easy: it's election time, and the vote-hungry incumbent supervisors and their gang are trying to keep their cake and eat it too.

WHITEWASH WOLLENBERG

A short time ago the crookedness of the corrupt relief administration, under the direction of the professional charity faker, Wollenberg, became so glaring that some public attention had to be paid to it by the Board of Supervisors. Because of the rapidly approaching election, attempts were made to put off the investigation until after election date. When these attempts failed, it was decided to hurry through a fake investigation, whitewash the relief administration, and trust to the short memory of the voters to give the politicians a breathing spell before the matter came to the surface again.

The fake investigation was carried through according to plan. Overwhelming evidence was presented to the board which established, among other evidences of wholesale grafting on the misery of the workers, that the jobs were being fed on food products far below standard (in some cases canned goods 12 years old), that terrorism and discrimination against workers was a common practice, and that a huge payroll of political favorites were guzzling at the charity trough. In the face of this, after a little squabbling as to the best method of blanketing the matter for long enough to get the elections over, they unanimously turned the whole thing over to a committee of four well-fed presidents of Universities.

CASH ON TRIAL

Much to the embarrassment of all concerned, even these hirelings of the capitalist system, in the face of overwhelming evidence, could do nothing but turn in a report condemning the present system of relief. They were compelled to recommend the substitution of cash relief for the graft ridden system of grocery relief. Faced with this report, and with the elections only a matter of weeks away, the City Hall grafters evolved the sly trick of recommending a "trial" of the cash relief system. This trial was not to take place at once, Oh, no! That would "disrupt" the organization. The "trial" of a system already established as the best was to take place later—after elections, so that it could be faked without danger to the "boys" who were running for re-election.

COMMUNISTS SPOIL PLAN

Unfortunately for the little plan, the Communist Party, at this point in the proceedings, entered a full slate of candidates for the vacancies on the Board of Supervisors and for the office of Treasurer. The Communist candidates pledged themselves to a working class platform. Their platform included such important pledges as the following—ADEQUATE CASH instead of groceries to all unemployed without discrimination against Negroes and Oriental people, \$10 per week plus \$3 for each dependent; relief distribution controlled by elected

committees of the unemployed; union wages on all relief and city and county jobs with equal rights of Negro and Oriental people to the work; free lunches, clothing and care for needy children.

THE SHOUTING STARTS

With the necessity of diverting the workers attention from the Communist Party platform, the incumbent supervisors hurriedly got together and through the columns of their press commenced to shout loudly that THEY were in favor of immediate cash relief. Their typically cynical effrontery in retreating from the stand they had so recently taken at the fake investigation they hoped would be overlooked if they belloyed loudly enough, and they thought they might once more delude the unemployed into voting for them. But their hypocritical cries for cash relief were part of a new plan to put the whole matter on the shelf until after November 7th, Coleman and Brown, who were

NOT running for re-election, refused to join in the resolution favoring cash relief, on the ground that it was INSULTING TO THE CHARITY GRAFTERS WHO COMPOSE THE CITIZENS RELIEF COMMITTEE. Consider this for a moment. These men were already condemned by the committee appointed by the board itself. Their conduct of the relief administration had already been shown up as a racket and their resignation and prosecution should have been at once started by the Mayor and Board of Supervisors who appointed them, but instead of this action being taken, members of the board had the consummate gall to suggest that they might be insulted by their methods of relief being changed in any way.

THE 3RD ACT

The well oiled machine then got into action. The supervisors who are running for re-election, having already established in the mind of

the voters the belief that THEY "were trying to do the right thing," sat back and let the rest of the gang work out the fate to its bitter end. The board convened again and under the leadership of Mayor Rossi, who doesn't face re-election for two more years, backed down on their previous resolution and gave their support to the corrupt Relief Committee. To keep up the pretense, they had two of the members of the board, who are not facing re-election, Gallagher and Shannon, put up a false and noisy squabble with the committee and the Mayor. This was to make the voters think that they were still fighting for cash relief.

The rest of the plan is simple. A sham battle on the subject of cash relief will be kept up until after the election, and then the Relief Committee and the professional charity faker, Wollenberg, will be confirmed in their positions, and will continue to use the money raised for the unemployed to fill the pig-trough for swine who are fattening on the misery of the jobless. Wollenberg's payroll at present, as revealed in the investigation, includes 291, drawing a total of \$47,000 per month.

As far as the rest of the candidates for the board are concerned—the puppets running on the Progress Ticket, Citizens Tax Reduction League Ticket and all the rest of the misleadingly named tickets—their attitude on this all-important matter of relief is typified by Rich-man Uhl and his four chorus men. Uhl injected himself into the fake investigation for the sake of the publicity he could get out of it and after getting all the advertising he could he withdrew from the fight, expressing the feeble opinion that "everything would be alright now, since the Citizens Relief Committee, and the Federal Government will control relief now. Beyond including in his platform the recommendation that scrip be issued instead of groceries—the same thing in a slightly different form—he is keeping quiet about relief during the election.

COMMUNISTS STAND

The only candidates who are meeting the issue squarely and honestly are the Workers' candidates themselves, who offer the only constructive platform which will alleviate the misery of the workers.

A big vote for the Communist candidates means a huge force behind the drive for adequate cash relief and under workers control. It means the elimination of the state groceries system, of the miserable supplies, and a graft ridden apparatus. It is the only vote that expresses the interests of the working masses.

S. F. Workers Protest Hitler Terror At Benefit Meet

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 24.—More than 800 workers voiced their protest against the fascist terror in Germany Saturday night at the Scottish Rite Auditorium. The affair, arranged by the National Committee for Aid to Victims of German fascism, raised a considerable sum to be sent to the defense of the victims, and to the widows and orphans of workers murdered by Hitler. The collection alone was \$83.

Sam Darcy, district organizer of the Communist Party, urged the workers and representatives of all organizations present to re-double their efforts to free the four Communist leaders now on trial in Leipzig, by the sending of protests to the German consuls in all cities, and to Judge Buenger at Leipzig.

(The article below is the leading editorial from the International Press Correspondence, at the opening of the trial at Leipzig):

The Leipzig trial, one of the most cynical legal comedies of modern times, began on the 21st of September before the Supreme German court. It is a process against the Communist Party, against the whole revolutionary working class movement in Germany.

The very first days of the proceedings left no doubt in the minds of the class-conscious workers of the world concerning the class character of the trial—comedy being staged in Leipzig. The "witnesses" who appeared for the prosecution were too obviously the instructed agents of the public prosecutor. No representatives of the press of the Soviet Union are permitted to enter the court. The representatives of the other foreign newspapers have been given an unmistakable lesson concerning how "objective" their reports must be. There are no foreign lawyers permitted to act at the trial. The officially appointed "defending lawyers" are the assistants of the public prosecutor. The only "chosen defender," Dr. Sack, organizer of the fascist free corps in 1919, Kapp Minister in 1920, and

at heart a National Socialist today, has declared the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Germany to be composed of swindlers and double-crossers. From the beginning of the proceedings this Dr. Sack has done his best to put on the mask of an "independent" lawyer for the defense. He has not been successful in this, for the very first days of the trial revealed him for what he is, the assistant of the prosecution.

It could easily be seen that the main point of the indictment would be that Van Der Lubbe was a Communist and that he had maintained close connections with the leaders of the Communist Party up to the 27th of February, and that the whole stage management of the trial would concentrate on proving this point. For two days the President of Hitler's court did his best to "elucidate" these "facts." "Are you a Communist?" he asked Van Der Lubbe. "You gave yourself out to be a Communist." However, Van Der Lubbe maintained that which was proved conclusively by the counter-trial in London, namely, that Van Der Lubbe parted company with the Dutch Communist Party between 1928 and 1931. The "upright and just" judges then had the insolence to declare that this more or less compulsory resignation from the Communist Party was certainly a maneuver. Did the Communists plan the burning down of the Reichstag in 1933 to take place in 1933 and therefore part company for tactical reasons with Van Der Lubbe? "Consider the matter again until tomorrow," ordered the President threateningly. When the next day came and the obstinate sinner Van Der Lubbe had still not "reconsidered" the matter properly his examination was temporarily abandoned.

SOMETHING WRONG

Why did the stage management of the trial which has been carefully rehearsed for months break down at the critical moment? The foreign press representatives write: "Van Der Lubbe is either an almost incredibly clever actor, or he is half-witted." If the representatives of the Nazified German press dared to write that they would be carried off to a concentration camp immediately. The mental specialist, Dr. Bonhoefer, brought into court as an expert by the Nazis, declared Van Der Lubbe and under oath that whilst examining Van Der Lubbe he had been able to discover "no factor which indicated any mental derangement." It would indeed be an unfortunate business if a mental expert of Hitler Germany went into the witness-box and gave evidence to the effect that the instrument and crown witness chosen by Hitler and Goering for their criminal provocation against the Communist Party was in fact a congenial idiot. The "defending counsel" Dr. Sack naturally made no attempt to demand the examination of Van Der Lubbe by foreign mental experts.

The failure of the carefully rehearsed stage management with regard to Van Der Lubbe seriously damaged the "authority" of the court, but the examination of the revolutionary working class leaders dealt the indictment the first smashing blows. The accused working class leaders Torgler and Dimitroff became accusers. Their fearless indictment of the fascist judges and their unshakable loyalty to the Communist Party, and even fresh air in the fetid atmosphere of venality, corruption and farce which pervaded the court and had its center on the judges' bench. Dimitroff declared boldly in the face of the judges: "I am here to defend Communism." And Torgler passionately refuted the foul accusations against himself and the Communist Party. The accused Communists were intimidated neither by the threat of death nor hard labor, and they raised the banner of the revolutionary class struggle, the banner of Communism in the fascist court.

NAZI PRESTIGE AT STAKE

The heroic attitude of the Communists accused gave the character to the first days of the Leipzig proceedings. However, the fact that the proceedings have begun so unfavorably for those who staged them does not mean that the danger to the lives of our comrades has in any way been lessened. To assume the contrary would be to harbor a dangerous illusion, for the brown minister camarilla which organized the burning of the Reichstag and which staged this trial is well aware that very much is at stake. The representative of the English "News Chronicle" at the trial writes:—

"Every German knows that it is not the accused alone who are on trial. The prestige of the Nazis is also on trial. The good faith of the German government is on trial. The prosecution is straining every nerve to prove that the accused were responsible for the burning of the Reichstag and not the National Socialist leaders, for the latter alternative would represent a terrible accusation against a party in whose hands the leadership of a great country is now held."

But it is not the foreign political prestige of the fascist adventurers, already on its last legs, which is threatened at the Leipzig trial. Outside the doors of the Leipzig court there is the more and more threatening internal situation of the country. We must not forget that the arson of the 27th of February was not merely a link in the chain of terrorist acts of fascism against the proletarian revolution, but that it was also the culminating point of the fascist campaign of demagoguery to deceive the German masses. By throwing the lighted torch into the Reichstag building, Hitler and his cronies poisoned the minds of millions of petty-bourgeoisie and even of the more backward sections of the working class in order to whip them up into a pitch of murderous hatred against the Com-

munists and the revolutionary workers. Emancipation from their own impoverishment and misery seemed identical with the extermination of the "Communist fire-bringers," and the systematic campaign of bloody terror organized by the Nazi hands against the Communists, the torture cellars of the Storm Troop barracks, etc., seemed to them to be the merited punishment for the "Communist sub-humans," for the "Moscow terrorists" who had fired the Reichstag and who, if left alone, poisoned the wells and murder women and children. "It is the undying service of the national government that prevented this chaos. It is the holy duty of the government towards the German people to exterminate physically the red traitors to their country."

That was the tune struck up by the swastika swindlers on the day after the burning of the Reichstag when Hitler and Goering published the following official communique: "This crime of arson is the most fearful crime yet committed in Germany by the Bolshevik terror. . . . The government demands from the appointed guardians of the security of Prussia that they should take stern action in accordance with their duty to the German people, and that in this moment of danger they should maintain the authority of the State at all costs."

PREPARE TO BEHEAD THAELMANN

If the Leipzig indictment should collapse the Hitler government would stand exposed as the band of firebrands and swindlers, of murderers and adventurers it really is. Such an exposure would rock the whole fabric of Nazi lies in which millions of petty-bourgeois still believe today. The "reasons" the Hitler government offers for the murder of revolutionary anti-fascists, with which it is preparing the monster process against the leader of the Communist Party of Germany and their servants, the swindle of "provision of work," "national economy," "national muneworth," would all be exposed and the faith of those who still offer the Hitler government a mass basis would be shaken beyond repair.

The aim of the Leipzig trial is not merely to bring Communist leaders into jail or on to the scaffold, but, above all, to clear the Hitler government of the charge of having fired the Reichstag. It is not merely a question of covering up the past, but of preparing new murders and provocations for the future. It is therefore clear that the Leipzig trial must end with the conviction of the accused Communists as "accessories" to the Reichstag fire.

It is clear that all means from perjury to murder will be adopted if necessary by Hitler, Goebbels, Goering and their servants, the judges and lawyers in Leipzig in order to force the trial-comedy to a satisfactory conclusion. The Leipzig trial is not an attempt to discover the truth, to discover the real criminals; it is a carefully prepared and detailed class process organized by the capitalists and their brown agents, the German fascists, against the only anti-capitalist party in Germany, the Communist Party. Replace the crucifix in the court room with the axe of the executioner, put executioners on the bench instead of judges, put the executioner's assistants in the place of the lawyers, and at last you have a true picture of the trial, the truth without a mask, the process without the accompanying legal decorations of "objective justice."

Only the agents of Hitler can attempt to deny the class content of this process. Only people who wish to hamper the growing solidarity action of the international proletariat can write:

"The President of the Leipzig court, Dr. Buenger, must not be judged by the fact that he has rejected the demand of the accused to be defended by foreign lawyers. . . . It is to be hoped that in this difficult process Dr. Buenger will follow only the voice of justice. If Buenger would really do this, then there would be no need to worry about the fate of the accused."

The press organ which published the above and in harmony with the Nazified press of the German Propaganda Ministry assumes that the President of the Leipzig farce could "follow only the voice of justice," bears the title "Deutsche Freiheit" ("German Freedom") and is the official organ of the social democracy in the Saar district. At about the same time the Voelkischer Beobachter, Hitler's personal mouthpiece, published the following as a fascist contribution to assist Dr. Buenger to "follow only the voice of justice":

"I know those faces. It was such faces that Liapchepoff showed me on photographs shortly after the bomb outrage in the Sofia cathedral. Many of these people were summarily hanged at the time. These men who are now in the dock at Leipzig still live. They 'still live.' One need not worry about the fate of the accused. The leaders of the Second International are loyal to the capitalist law-breakers and perverters of justice right up to the scaffold when Communist heads are at stake."

The brown bandits cannot and will not leave any means untried in order to force their comedy of justice through to a satisfactory conclusion. The only power which can save the victims of fascism from the scaffold is the power of proletarian internationalism. Intensify the action of solidarity in Germany and outside its frontiers. Save Thaelmann, Torgler, Dimitroff, Popoff and Tanev. Overwhelm the fascist court with protest resolutions.